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The frontiers of Bengal under the Husian
[sic] Shahi rulers. BPP 77 (1958), pp.
42-49

Hüseyni Şahiler

TARİH

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last of the Sharqis, an estimate. *Proc.*
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Hüseyni Şah

Hüseyni Şah, Şahilerin
Dönüşü, bu Tehmin

date of its conquest is yet to be established). An enlightened and liberal ruler, he treated his Hindu subjects with generosity and appointed many of them to high offices. He built mosques, alms-houses, *madrasas* and other buildings of public utility, for whose maintenance he created endowments. He "was unquestionably the best, if not the greatest of the medieval rulers of Bengal . . . and had almost become a national institution . . .". He died in 926/1519 and was succeeded by his son Nuṣrat Shāh.

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X **HUSAYN SHĀH** (2), b. Maḥmūd Shāh Sharḳī (reg. 840/1436-862/1458) was the last of the Sharḳī Sultans of the independent kingdom of Dīawnpūr [q.v.], who ascended the throne in 863/1458 after the death, in an armed conflict, of his elder brother Muḥammad Shāh, at that time engaged in hostilities against Buhlōl Lōdī [q.v.], the king of Delhi. Husayn, immediately on his accession, concluded a four-year truce with Buhlōl. He utilized the respite by leading a powerful army into Tirhut and Orissa, both of which he reduced, compelling the Hindu ruler of Orissa to pay a huge ransom. In 871/1466 he laid siege to the fortress of Gwāliyar [q.v.] held by the Rāḍipūt prince Mān Singh, who also purchased peace by paying an indemnity. Urged by his favourite queen Bībī Kh^unza (not Djalila, as given by the *Camb. Hist. of Ind.*, iii, 231, 255, which is a misreading for *halīla*, cf. Firishṭa, Lucknow ed., ii, 602), entitled Malika-i Dīahān, a daughter of the fugitive Sayyid king of Delhi, 'Alā' al-Dīn, to regain her father's lost possessions, he marched against Delhi in 878/1473, taking advantage of Buhlōl's absence in the Pandjāb. Buhlōl, his army vastly outnumbered, sued for peace, but this offer was contemptuously rejected by Husayn. In the ensuing conflict the scales turned against him and he had to flee for his life, the ladies of his *harim*, including the queen, falling into the hands of the victor. In order to avenge his defeat he attacked Efāwah, held by Kuṭb Khān Lōdī, in 879/1474. He again suffered defeat; a third attempt met with the same fate. In 883/1479 Husayn by his skilful military tactics succeeded in defeating the Lōdis. But while the victorious army was retreating, Buhlōl fell upon it from behind and compelled Husayn to cede Kāāplī, Pafiāli and certain other towns in the Doāb. Smarting under the blow Husayn soon after engaged Buhlōl at Sunhar (dist. Efāwa) in 892/1486 but suffered a crushing defeat. Dīawnpūr was captured and entrusted first to Mubārak Khān and later to Buhlōl's son Bārbak Shāh. In utter despair Husayn had to flee into Bihar, closely pursued by Buhlōl, who chased him as far as Haldī on the Ganges. From his retreat in Bihar he continued to indulge in intrigues trying to sow discord between Bārbak Shāh, who held Dīawnpūr, and his brother Sikandar Lōdī [q.v.], who now occupied the throne of Delhi. Sikandar, however, outmanoeuvred and overcame Bārbak, who was taken captive, and absorbed his principality into the Lōdī kingdom of Delhi. Husayn, losing all hope of recovering his lost possessions, repaired to Kahl-gāōn (Colgong) in Bengal where he continued to enjoy the protection and hospitality of his relative the Pūrbi Sultan, 'Alā' al-Dīn Husayn Shāh [q.v.], as Firishṭa calls him, till his death in 905/1500. With him

the Sharḳī line of kings of the independent kingdom of Dīawnpūr came to a close. In accordance with his will, his coffin was transferred to Dīawnpūr and interred in the family grave-yard, within the *khānkāh* of Shaykh 'Isā Tāḍi b. Aḥmad 'Isā, close to the Great Mosque of Dīawnpūr "al-Djāmi' al-Sharḳ". This mosque, completed during Husayn Shāh's reign in 852/1448, is the best specimen of Sharḳī architecture.

A liberal patron of the fine arts, Husayn Shāh was himself a great musician. He is credited with having invented the melody known in Indian musical terminology as the *Khayāl*, in addition to many other compositions, e.g., Dīawnpūrī Tōdī, Dīawnpūrī Basant, Dīawnpūrī Asāwri, Husaynī Kānbra. His skill and proficiency in music, both instrumental and vocal, earned him the title of Nā'ik, i.e., a master musician (cf. *Ta'rikh Shirāz-i Hind Dīawnpūr*, 548-55).

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X **HUSAYN SHĀH ARGHŪN** (also known as MİRZA SHĀH ḤASAN) b. Shāh Bēg Arghūn, the founder of the Arghūn dynasty of Sind, was born in 896/1490 most probably at Ḳandahār which was then held by his father. On Bābur's occupation of Ḳandahār in 913/1507 Shāh Bēg came to Sind and occupied the adjoining territories of Shāl and Siwī (modern Sibi). In 921/1515 Husayn Shāh fell out with his father and joined the service of Bābur, with whom he remained for two years. The domestic quarrel having been patched up he returned to his father. In 926-27/1519-20 he was deputed by Shāh Bēg to help Dīām Firūz, the ruler of Thāffa, whose territory had been invaded by his rival Dīām Ṣalāh al-Dīn, whom he defeated and killed in battle. On the death of his father in 928/1521 Husayn Shāh was proclaimed the ruler of upper Sind at Naṣrpūr where he was then